



Hello We Are...



Sarah & Brett



## Our Hopes & Dreams

Our hope is to welcome your child into our lives with love. We have always wanted a family and have dreamed of being the parents who go on school field trips, cheer on their child at various events, help with homework, teach family values, and just have fun as a family.

We believe in leaning on each other and supporting one another. We approach parenthood with a deep sense of responsibility, compassion, and openness. We have always considered adoption as a way to grow our family. After facing struggles with infertility, we decided to pursue our dream of adopting. Regardless of how a child comes to our family, we plan to love them as our own.

We want to give your child as many opportunities in life as we can through education and exploring various interests such as sports, dance, music, crafting, travel, or any number of other interests they may want to pursue. We want to love, guide, and nurture them to grow into the best version of themselves. We believe children need to have freedom to make mistakes and learn from them while still having reasonable boundaries and expectations.

If you select us as your child's parents, we hope to communicate openly and share your child's milestones. We want your child to grow up to know and respect you. For you, we hope you have peace with your adoption plan and are empowered to pursue your own aspirations and dreams.

Respectfully,

*Sarah & Brett*

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# Our Values & Beliefs as Parents



**BE RESPECTFUL** - We want to raise your child to be respectful of others. Teaching them to value and demonstrate respect not only fosters positive relationships, but also equips them with essential life skills. By demonstrating respect towards others, even in situations where it might not be reciprocated, we are fostering goodwill, empathy and understanding. Understanding that respect is shown in various forms, such as giving space or accepting differences of opinion, is crucial in navigating a variety of social interactions. This foundational value will undoubtedly serve them well in their personal and professional lives, contributing to their growth as compassionate and socially adept individuals.



**OPEN COMMUNICATIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH** - We want your child to know they can rely on us to always listen with an open heart. We want to actively work towards creating a supportive environment. By encouraging your child to express themselves openly and honestly, we are building a trusting relationship and teaching them to share their thoughts, feelings, and struggles. This also promotes emotional well-being and resilience in your child. This steadfast support system will serve as a source of comfort and strength for your child as they navigate life's ups and downs.



**LIVE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE** - We are both actively working on living a healthier and active life. Both of us had a hard time in school due to our size. We are determined to create a different experience for your child. By prioritizing physical activity and embracing various forms of exercise, we are promoting physical health and fostering confidence, and self-esteem in your child. Engaging in activities like sports, biking, hiking, and dancing keeps them active and allows them to discover interests and talents while having fun.



**BE THE LIGHT AND JOY** - We want your child to be kind and loving. In a world where negativity can often overshadow positivity, we are committed to instilling these values in your child. Kindness and love are learned behaviors, and by prioritizing them in our family, we hope to create compassionate individuals. Small acts of kindness are important. A simple compliment or gesture of kindness has the power to brighten someone's day and uplift their spirits in profound ways.

**FAITH** - We also want to teach our children to have faith. Faith can serve as a source of strength, comfort, and guidance, especially during challenging times. We attend weekly mass at church. While we may not always agree with certain aspects of religious practices or how some individuals act, we believe in Jesus and strive to live as an example of his teachings. We want your child to ask questions and discuss their faith, so they may develop their own understanding and relationship with their faith.

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# Our Home

Our neighborhood is a quiet place to live. The children range in age from newborn to teens. Sarah's parents live in the same neighborhood, making trips to JoJo and Pawpaw's house a short bike ride. Sarah likes to go on walks throughout the neighborhood with our dog, Daisy. Close by there are three parks, a trampoline park, a children's museum, a movie theater, dance studios, sports activities, public libraries, restaurants, shopping, and various clubs and classes.

Our home is comfortable and cozy. We have a very relaxing layout after our recent remodel. We live within the city limits and have a good-sized yard. We have plenty of space to add a swing set and a pool. We have a new covered patio, and Sarah sometimes sits in the grass under a tree in our backyard. We want all of our friends and family to feel welcome and have a sense of home, therefore we made sure we had plenty of spaces to hang out, play cards, board games or multiplayer video games, and for friends and family to stay the night. We love all the times we have friends and family over to hang out or play games. We love sharing our home and spending time with people.

Yet, for too long our home has been just us two and our pets. We look forward to sharing our lives with our children. We are looking forward to hearing children in our home. We can't wait for the laughter, the sounds of children playing, telling stories, and reading to them.

We are excited to share our favorite time of day with our child. That is, the evenings when we are winding down from the day. Sarah sits with our dog Daisy on her lap and reads a good book or crochets while watching something on TV. Brett likes to watch TV, play video games, or work on his 3-D printers in our garage. Our focus will change to spending time with our child. We will play on the floor, pretend play, play outside, go to parks, and involve them in everyday tasks.

Your child's bedroom is painted a light gray, a neutral color perfect for any theme, gender, or age. It's a good-sized room with two closets. We look forward to creating a special place for your child once we know their gender and age.

Our home is Sarah's childhood home. Her parents purchased it before she was born, and she has lived most of her life in this home. Once we married, we spent about six years in the home adjusting to married life and having friends over. We have since completed renovations on our home and look forward to raising our child in this special home. Maybe someday they too will live here with their own family.

## HOBBIES:

**Adoptive Mother:** Reading, crocheting, video games, tabletop roleplaying games, playing with our pets, hiking when traveling, taking walks around the neighborhood, and exercising at home

**Adoptive Father:** 3d printing, costume and prop building, singing, video games, tabletop roleplaying games, sports, hiking when traveling, and going to the gym

## PROFESSIONS:

**Adoptive Mother:** Funeral Director

**Adoptive Father:** Lead Draftsman

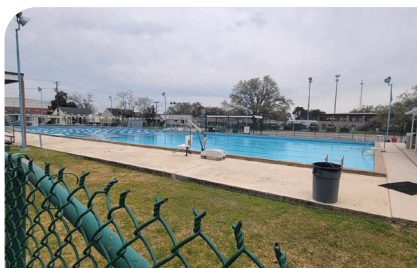
## EDUCATION LEVEL:

**Adoptive Mother:** Bachelor's Degree

**Adoptive Father:** Associates Degree

## PLUS:

- Family dog and cat
- Both non-smokers



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# Our Family

We met at a five-day youth ministry leadership retreat in 2007. We immediately became friends and found time to spend together at every youth ministry event thereafter. Several months later, Brett showed up at my house with a single red rose to ask me on a date. Brett swept me off my feet with that rose, and I never saw it coming. He's been surprising me ever since. After a few months of dating, we were already very much in love. We dated six years before getting married.

We communicate well, support each other, and fight for each other. Brett is the sincerest person I've ever met and is my best friend. We both enjoy movies, playing games together, going on day trips, visiting family or friends, and anything D&D (Dungeons & Dragons) related. We play D&D with a few different groups and enjoy hosting games at our house. We like seeing everyone come together to create stories.

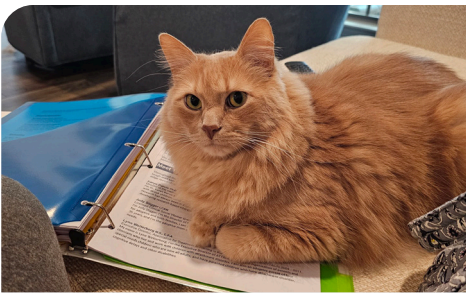
Family loyalty is important to us. We take care of our own so that together we can do more for others. Together we try our best to support both sides of our family and our community. We see Sarah's family quite often. Her mom and dad live just a few blocks away and attend the same church as us. We also spend time with her brothers' families and our nieces and nephews.

We also love attending our state's Renaissance Festival. We go either by ourselves for a weekend trip or for a day with both sides of our families. This past year we brought two of our nieces and one of our nephews. One of Sarah's brothers and his wife also met up with us. Brett's family gets together every year for our Fireman's parade. Brett and his dad cook a jambalaya for all the family members who show up. It's always a great time to see all his aunts, uncles, and cousins.

One holiday tradition we enjoy is on Christmas Eve; it's called "cribbing baby Jesus." We read a couple of bible verses, sing songs, and have a candle lit procession throughout the host's home. The youngest member of the family holds the baby Jesus figure until we reach the crib under the Christmas tree and then places the baby in the crib. It's a tradition that has been in Sarah's family for more than 70 years.

We'd like to start celebrating "Gotcha Day" with our child once the adoption takes place and going on yearly vacations. As for other traditions, we sometimes find that a child sparks new traditions just by being present in the home, and we are looking forward to learning what new traditions we might develop over the next several years.

Our families are super excited. Our child will be Brett's parent's first grandchild and the youngest grandchild on Sarah's side. We already have plenty of family members who are offering to babysit or host sleepovers.



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